

ABSTRACT

WA-VI-035

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. ---(138)

1767 (first set 1902)

Forest Park, Maryland vicinity

Public/private

an irregular interval but  
Milestone No. ---(138) marks / useful survey point on Mason and Dixon's West Line  
between <sup>the remains of</sup> two original mounds: No. ---(137) on Sideling Hill <sup>about 1/2 mile</sup> ridge to the east and  
No. --- (140) about 1 1/4 miles to the west. It is an original milestone of 1767,  
brought from the vicinity of Clear Spring, Maryland, <sup>and first set at an additional site</sup> in 1902 during the 1900-03  
Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. It is an embellished oolitic  
limestone post with a low pyramidal top, quarried and carved in England, firmly  
in place, <sup>measuring about 12 inches square</sup> in excellent condition, unaltered, and standing about 1 1/2 feet  
above ground. Its distinguishing decorative features remain essentially intact  
and clear, though weathered: vertical fluting with horizontally-fluted margins  
on all four sides and the Roman capital letters P on the north side facing  
Pennsylvania and M on the south side facing Maryland, each V-sunk in the center  
of a plain shallow circle panel near the top. This milestone is significant on  
the national and state levels primarily as one of 135 original Mason and Dixon  
monuments in the thematic group series of some 248  
/ markers still defining the West Line. Locally, as one of 48 of these original  
monuments marking the present Washington/Franklin-Fulton county boundary, it is  
also significant as one of a diminishing number of objects and structures with  
a visually identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of  
these counties.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST Magi No.

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME** BOUNDARY MARKERS ALONG THE MASON-DIXON LINE (THEMATIC GROUP)  
 HISTORIC (Mason and Dixon's) WEST LINE

AND/OR COMMON

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. --- (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 138)

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER off the west side of Mountain Road/T-308

CITY, TOWN

Forest Park

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

MD: 6/ PA: 9

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

MD: Washington / PA: Fulton

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS N/A	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: state boundary marker

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY** (monument only; see Thematic Group NR nomination form)

NAME State of Maryland/Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION** (see Thematic Group NR nomination form and surrounding property ownership list)COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS** (also see Thematic Group NR nomination form)

TITLE

Washington County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

WA-VI-035 entered 2/24/81

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

**7 DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> additional site
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

an irregular interval but useful survey  
 Milestone No. --- (138) marks /point on Mason and Dixon's West Line about midway between the preceding crownstone and stone mound on the ridge of Sideling Hill about a half mile to the east and Bear Creek at the western bottom of the mountain. It is an original brought from the vicinity of Clear Spring, MD, and first milestone of 1787/set at this additional site in 1902 during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. It is in excellent condition, unaltered, and stands <sup>firmly</sup> about 18 inches high, presumably as set.

The area here <sup>is rural,</sup> rather open, mountain foothills, partially wooded, partially farmed, sparsely settled. The site is within Election District 5 of Washington County, MD, and Union Township of Fulton County, PA; on the west slope of Sideling Hill; at a point about 1300 feet west of Mountain Road/T-308 and about 6 feet south of the narrow east-west private lane serving the farm at the <sup>west</sup> end of the lane. It is in the lane's shoulder/berm, about 2 feet north of the old east-west barbed wire fence along the north side of the James Hendershort property. It can be seen <sup>easily</sup> from the lane, all seasons, but is protected by being above the lane grade level and in a scraggly hedgerow fringe.

The milestone, as with all original Mason and Dixon West Line monuments, is an oolitic limestone post with a low pyramidal top, quarried and carved in England, originally measuring about 12 inches square by about 4 feet or more long, cut to stand about 3 feet high with the base left rough-cut for setting into the ground. The distinguishing embellishments are the vertical fluting with horizontally-fluted margins on all four sides, and the Roman capital letters P on the north side facing Pennsylvania and M on the south side facing Maryland, each V-sunk in the center of a plain shallow circle panel near the top. It is firmly in place, <sup>continues to</sup> measure about 12 inches square; both letters and circle panels are clear and intact, though weathered; most fluting and margins remain, as do the planes, fluting and apex of the top. <sup>and mottled with a liberal sprinkling of lichen</sup> All surfaces are slightly weathered; all edges and the top corners have minor chips; <sup>and</sup> there is a bullet-hole pit on the east side.

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form for full descriptions of the original Mason and Dixon monuments and the 1900-03 Resurvey method of resetting them)

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY**

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) boundary surveying
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1767 (first set 1902) ~~BUILDER/ARCHITECT~~ Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon  
SURVEYORS

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Milestone No. ---(138) is significant on the national and state levels primarily as one of 135 original Mason and Dixon monuments in the thematic group series of some 248 markers still defining their 230.228-mile West Line, the boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. <sup>area of the</sup> The/site was preliminarily surveyed in 1766, but not monumented until 1902 when an original milestone of 1767 was brought from the vicinity of Clear Spring, MD, <sup>and first set</sup> during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Locally, as one of 48 original monuments marking the present Washington/Franklin-Fulton county boundary (10 crownstones; 38 milestones), No. ---(138) is also significant as one of a diminishing number of objects and structures with a visually identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

Quadrangle name: Bellegrove (Maryland-Pennsylvania-West Virginia), USGS 7.5 minute series (topographic), 1951 photorev. 1974, scale 1:24000

UTM reference: zone 17, easting 73213, northing 440026

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION N/A

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE Maryland COUNTY Washington

STATE Pennsylvania COUNTY Fulton

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**NAME / TITLE  
Alice Martin (volunteer, Mason and Dixon's West Line boundary marker surveyor)ORGANIZATION  
Maryland Historical Trust and Maryland Geological SurveyDATE  
5/31/81 (site surveyed)STREET & NUMBER  
14308 Mount AvenueTELEPHONE  
(301) 472-2128CITY OR TOWN  
PhoenixSTATE  
Maryland 21131

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

WA-VI-035



HASON & DIXON'S WEST LINE' MILESTONE NO. --- (138)

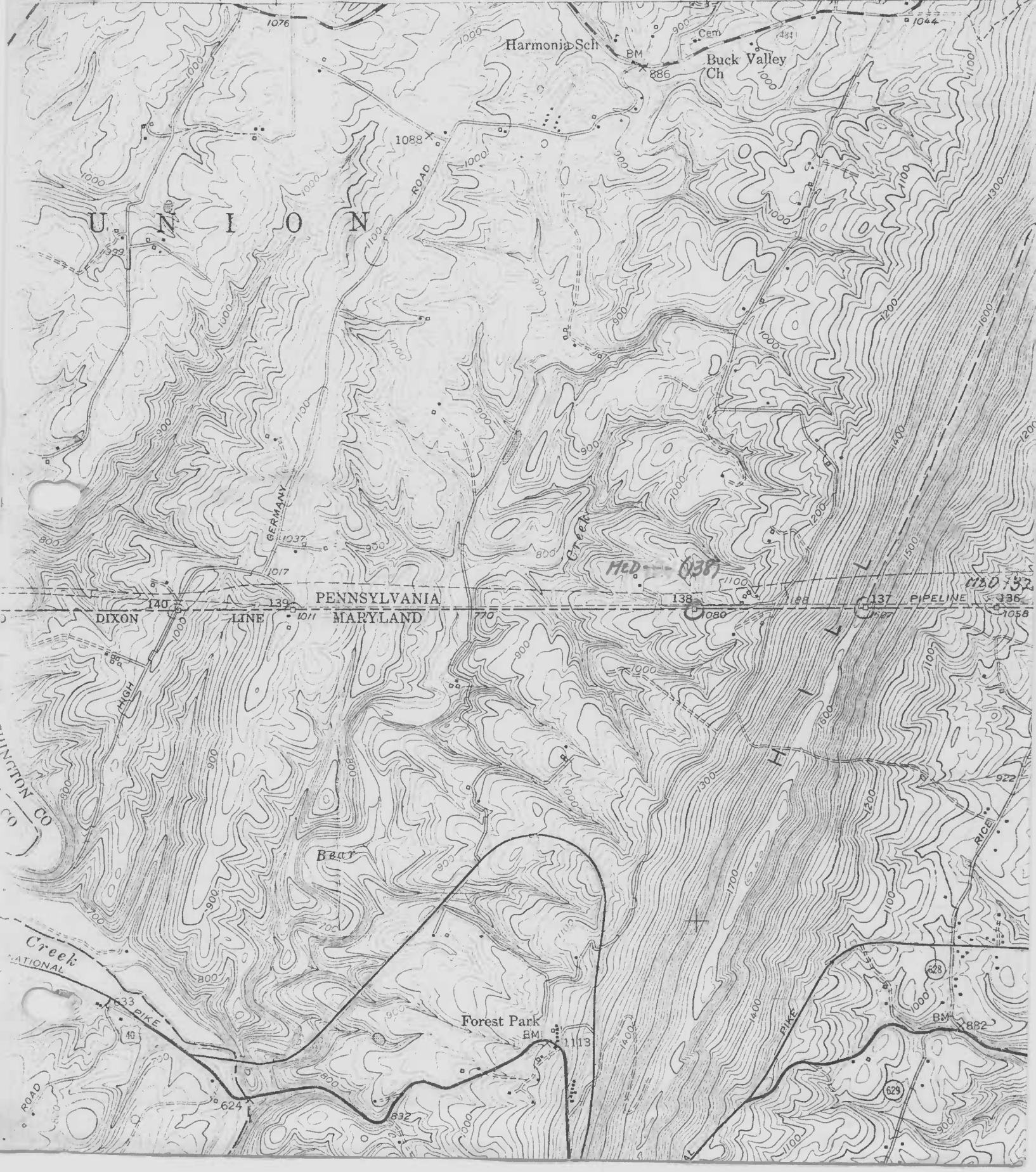
BELLE GROVE QUADRANGLE  
MARYLAND-PENNSYLVANIA-WEST VIRGINIA  
USGS 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
1951 PHOTO REV. 1974  
SCALE: 1"=2000'

WARFORDSBURG (JUNC. U.S. 522) 10 MI.  
ALLEY 4 MI.

5363 IV SE  
(AMARANTH)

17'30"

733 440 000 FEET (MD.)





MHT

WA-VI-035

MASON & DIXON'S WEST LINE; MILESTONE — (138)

SE CORNER (M/-)

ADDITION (1962) WITH ORIGINAL (1767 FROM  
VICINITY OF CLEAR SPRING)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 5/31/81 (1981.19.1)





MH7

WA-V-035

MASON & DIXON'S WEST LINE: MILESTONE — (138)

NW CORNER (P/-)

ADDITION (1902) WITH ORIGINAL (1767 FIRM  
VICINITY OF CLEAR SPRING)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 5/31/81 (1981.18.33)